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TOPIC: Bernau Airfield

REPORT

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EVALUATION

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

25X1A

REFERENCES

PAGES: 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 6 September 1951, employees of the Freienwalde labor office said that they had difficulties in recruiting and drafting laborers for the Bauunion Firm. The workers who were employed at Bernau airfield by the Bauunion Firm were to be subsequently engaged at Koenigsberg/Neumark airfield with maximum monthly salary of 1,200 eastmarks. (1) Difficulties had increased because the Bauunion Firm had allegedly mentioned that, upon completion of work at Koenigsberg/Neumark airfield, a new airfield was scheduled to be built in the Warsaw area. Soviet penal units were allegedly quartered at Koenigsberg airfield. (2)
2. Between 3 and 7 September, 1,017 workers were employed at Bernau airfield. An area of 217,000 square meters was concreted for a runway and taxiways. A taxiway was completed from the west end of the runway as far as 200 meters east of the western side road and from the east end of the runway as far as the eastern side road. Construction was also completed on the eastern side road. (3) The fence around a hangar was removed and another hangar was fenced-in instead. **After 4 September, about 40 Russians were observed cleaning twin-engine aircraft. They later started the planes' engines. The planes were parked inside and in front of one hangar.** (4) By order of the construction management, a fuel container of the old installation in front of the hangars had to be removed as it interfered with the side road. On 6 September, officers of the border construction staff arrived in two biplanes. The spur track running along the western border of the field was completed to the southern edge of the restricted area.
3. On 9 September, a laborer employed at the airfield said that, upon completion of improvement work in Bernau, the entire work force of the Bauunion Firm was to be transferred to Koenigsberg/Neumark to construct a new airfield there.

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Comments.

- (1) The intended improvement of Koenigsberg/Neumark airfield has been confirmed by several sources. No information has been received indicating the exact date for the beginning of construction work.
- (2) It is not known which airfield near Warsaw is to be improved.

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SECURITY INFORMATION

- (3) The so-called side roads are connecting lanes from the runway to the taxiway which runs parallel to the runway.
- (4) The hangars are occupied by F4-2s which are occasionally serviced.

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